



TEXT 3

Read the following article about a Dutch scouting tradition, and decide which of the options (A - K) is the most appropriate to fill in each gap. Each option can be used only ONCE. There are **three extra options** which do not match any gaps. *Item 0* is an example. Do not forget to write your answers in the white boxes on the next page. (2.8 marks: 0.4 each)

A PECULIARLY DUTCH SUMMER RITE

AUSTERLITZ, the Netherlands — Shortly after 10 p.m. on a recent night, a car came to a stop at the edge of the woods. (0) H : towheaded boys of 12 and 15, and a 12-year-old girl with dark pigtails and an emoji-covered backpack. Then the driver threw the car into gear and sped away, (1) _____.

They were tiny figures at the foot of the forest, miles from the summer camp they were attending, with only a primitive GPS to indicate the right direction. Darkness was falling. And they were alone.

They peered into the night: Was this the path?

“Could be,” said Thomas, the 12-year-old team leader.

And then, because there was nothing else to do, they plunged into the woods.

This is the Dutch scouting tradition known as a “dropping”, in which groups of children, generally pre-teenagers, are deposited in a forest and expected to find their way back to base.

In some variations of the challenge, adults trail the teams of children, but refuse to guide them, although they may leave cryptic notes as clues. To make it more difficult, adult organizers may (2) _____, or drive in loop-de-loops to scramble their sense of direction.

If this sounds a little crazy to you, it is because you are not Dutch.

The Dutch do childhood differently. Children are taught not to depend too much on adults; adults are taught to allow children to solve their own problems. Droppings distill these principles into extreme form, banking on the idea that even for children who are tired, hungry and disoriented, (3) _____.

That night was the first dropping for Stijn Jongewaard, an 11-year-old boy, who claimed to have learned English from Minecraft video games. At home, he spends much of his leisure time planted in front of his PlayStation. This is one reason his parents have sent him to camp. He has never been lost in the woods before.

If you peruse the Dutch newspapers with sufficient attention, (4) _____. In 2012, German media reported that five Dutch boys on a dropping in Germany called local police to extract them from the narrow space where they had become stuck, between a rock face and a ventilation duct.

A “perilous adventure,” the Germans reported.

But Dutch journalists were unimpressed at all the fuss, (5) _____. “The dropping is often the most exciting part of a camping trip,” explained one follow-up article.

Droppings are such a normal part of Dutch childhood that many there are surprised to be asked about it, assuming it is common to every country. But Pia de Jong, a novelist who has raised her children in New Jersey, said it reflected something particular about the Dutch philosophy of parenting.

“You just drop your kids into the world,” she said. “Of course, you make sure they don’t die, but other than that, they have to find their own way.”

By 1 a.m., Stijn and the other campers were well into their third hour of hiking. They trudged (6) _____. Fifteen minutes passed, and another 15, and there was no sign that they were anywhere near their campsite.

They were bone-tired, all of them, but also adamant on finishing. One boy had asked to be picked up at the halfway mark, and that seemed to make the rest of them more determined. At that halfway mark, the children were given snacks and water, but in exchange, their GPS was taken away, and they had to follow their instincts. But no one complained, since there was no one to complain to.

It was nearly 2 a.m. when they stumbled into camp. There was a crackling fire, and boiled sausages tucked into soft rolls. Owls were on the hunt, and (7) _____.

The campers wolfed down the food, stared into the fire for a few minutes, and stumbled to their tents. When Stijn emerged the next morning, bleary-eyed, at 11 a.m., he considered himself a veteran.



- A. absolutely flabbergasted to find the sneering campers strayed from the path
- B. along a paved road in single file, too drained for conversation
- C. even blindfold the children on their way to the dropping
- D. gravel crunching under its tires
- E. mocking it as a “droppingsdrama” and “a bit romanticized”
- F. need to assert helicopter parents it is not against the law
- G. standing still in the forest after their appointed pickup time
- ~~H. The door opened to release three children~~
- I. their shrieks could be heard in the tree canopy high above
- J. there is a compensatory thrill to being in charge
- K. you will find evidence of droppings gone awry

①	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥	⑦
H							
✓							



KEY

COMPRENSIÓN DE TEXTOS ESCRITOS

C1

MAYO 2022

TEXT 1: ALCATRAZ (4 marks: 0.4 each)

	ANSWERS
0	GRIMLY
1	FORTRESS
2	CONVICTS
3	BATCH
4	WARDEN
5	EACH
6	AFTER
7	REARED
8	SWEPT
9	ATTORNEY
10	CLAIMED

TEXT 2: WHAT MY SUMMER JOB TAUGHT ME (3.2 marks: 0.4 each)

	ANSWERS
0	C
1	A
2	B
3	A
4	B
5	C
6	C
7	B
8	A

TEXT 3: A PECULIARLY DUTCH SUMMER RITE (2.8 marks: 0.4 each)

	ANSWERS
0	H
1	D
2	C
3	J
4	K
5	E
6	B
7	I